

## Conscription Plan Passes

The Administration bill to raise an army of 1,000,000 by select draft passed both the Senate and the House last Saturday, the former by a vote of 81 to 8 and the latter by a vote of 397 to 24. The bills passed by the two houses differ in a good many respects, but the conscript feature of both is decisive. The differences will be adjusted by conference between the two branches of Congress, which is now in progress.

The bill authorizes the President to draft into the military service 500,000 men, and at such time as he may deem proper an additional force of 500,000. He is also authorized to raise the regular army to its maximum strength of 287,000, and to increase the National Guard to its maximum strength of about 625,000 by voluntary enlistment. The total armed forces authorized in the bill aggregate nearly two millions.

The age limit of the drafting feature of the bill is one of the principal matters on which the Senate and House differ, the Senate bill placing it at from 21 to 27, while the House bill fixes it at from 21 to 40. This has to be adjusted by conference. The Senate bill also contains a provision to enable former President Roosevelt to raise an army division by voluntary enlistment to go to the battle front in France without delay, which means of course several months, as it would take that time for the raising of such a division. This is a matter, too, that will have to be settled by conference of the two houses. These differences will probably all be adjusted before the end of the week, and the machinery for conscripting the first 500,000 men will immediately be put into operation.

## A Truly Great Production

The staging of "Civilization" must have marked a new era in the staging of moving picture film making. This stupendous production was at the Monarch Monday and Tuesday for three performances, and furnished a liberal education on the unspeakable horrors and absolute futility of war, first-hand we may say. The absolute barbarity of warfare, as it is now being carried on in the European war zone, is there described as it could not be shown in any other way so vividly, except from an aircraft over the scene of actual hostilities, and even then one would have to imagine many of the scenes that are actually portrayed in the production of "Civilization."

For more than two hours the wrapt attention of the spectator is held by the fascination of horror of the scenes there depicted, and the pictures will give even the closest observer of those deplorable tragedies, which for nearly three years have been daily occurring in that wofully devastated zone, a new idea of the real horrors of that terrific tragedy against the human race.

No one should fail to see "Civilization," as it represents conditions that are actually being acted out today in real life. But we are surprised that the governmental authorities permit these pictures to be exhibited, especially at this particular time, when this country is preparing to take a hand in this frightful drama. It is calculated to snuff out the last spark of so-called "patriotism," which is there so vividly portrayed as the destruction of the human race. It is claimed that the staging of these pictures cost more than a million dollars, and after witnessing them one is not inclined to believe that the figures have been exaggerated. We understand the exhibition of this picture has already been censored, but its promoters are permitted to fill dates that have been previously booked.

## PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD STOCK—WHO OWNS IT?

We often hear of the plutocrat owners of railroad shares and bonds. It is interesting to know that the Pennsylvania Company is owned by 93,445 shareholders; of this number, 10,577 are foreign holders. The average number of shares for each stockholder is 118. Of the stockholders, 48.87 per cent are women, who own 28.16 per cent of the total capital stock. Less than four thousand were the total number of stockholders in 1856. Since then the increase has been creeping up until now the stockholders number nearly 100,000.

Bondholders are not of record but it would be safe to state that the bonds of this great railroad are held by more than 60,000 men and women. They comprise the frugal, backbone, law-respecting people of this nation. It is this same type of people that make all big enterprises possible. Nasty, cheap, brainless sensationalism exploited by demagogic politicians and yellow newspapers would have us embarrass the investments of these people by false, untrue statements, of watered stock, balloon dividends, monopolized by plutocrats, all said and written for mob favor and effect, but which ultimately can only result in everyone's disadvantage.

On his return home from New York last of the week, where he had spent the winter, Capt. W. A. Kennedy stopped off at Macomb, Ill., for a visit with his daughter, whom he persuaded to come home with him for a visit.

## An Important Farmers Meeting

An interesting county farmers meeting was held at the Court House Wednesday afternoon, the purpose of which was to impress the necessity of organization and the cultivation of larger food crops to meet the demands which war has made and continues to make upon the food supply of the country, greater now than ever that the United States has been drawn into the mighty struggle that is engaging more than half of the world.

Thirty-one districts of the county were represented at the meeting, and interesting talks were made by a number of persons along the lines of more intensive farming and the great necessity of putting in larger food crops than heretofore. All that can be raised will be needed, as not only our own people and army must be fed, but the Allied Powers of Europe, of whom our declaration of war with Germany makes us one, must depend largely upon the farmer of the United States to supply their peoples and armies.

In this work the farmer is doing a service as patriotic, and even more important than the soldier in the trenches, for without sufficient food the army would be weak and ineffective. County Farm Agent Foard impressed upon those present not only the necessity of increasing in every way possible their crops, but that when they were harvested the strictest economy should be practiced so that nothing would go to waste.

A number of places were named where farm board meetings will be held to organize and put in working shape farm clubs, as follows: Libertyville, Unity School House, Copenhagen, Desloge, Leadwood, French Village, Hazel Run, Bonne Terre, Esther, Franklay, Bismarck, Doe Run, Loughboro, Barton School House, Farmington and other points.

The following resolutions were presented and adopted by the meeting:

- Resolved: 1st, That we pledge our support to the President, National and State Governments in the present crisis;
- 2nd, That we pledge our support and co-operation to our County Agent, our County Superintendent of Schools, and Agricultural College in their efforts to increase agricultural products;
- 3rd, That we consider the agricultural clubs of St. Francois county of great service at the present time and therefore we advise and encourage every citizen of the county to become a member of some club;
- 4th, That we heartily endorse and pledge our support to the boys' and girls' now organized clubs and desire to advise the organization of other clubs;
- 5th, That agricultural clubs should consider and discuss the problem of the character of products. The staple products should be greatly increased;
- 6th, That each agricultural club should appoint a committee to see that all available land in its district is cultivated;
- 7th, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to our State Agricultural College, to our State Superintendent of Schools, to the various county papers for publication, and a copy spread on the minutes of this meeting.

C. B. Denman, Chairman,  
W. H. Counts,  
B. F. Melcher,  
Geo. Koester,  
Chas. Schuttler,  
J. M. Besterfeldt,  
J. Clyde Akers,  
Committee.

## THE MASTER OF BONNE TERRE

This is the title of a new book, just off the press, by William Antony Kennedy, which has a two-fold interest to the people of this vicinity. The author is a former school boy of Farmington, who was reared on a farm near the scenes of which he writes. The settings of the story deal with the early history of the St. Joseph Lead Mines, the largest and richest in the world.

The book opens with the dramatic death and burial of the old Master of Bonne Terre and his wife, whose son returns after many years to take up the title for himself. Fact and fiction in regard to this section are interwoven in the story in a way to make it an intensely interesting one, and those familiar with the development of the mines may readily separate one from the other. Many familiar names are mentioned, which give to the story an added interest.

Mr. Kennedy is the author of two other books—"As Britons See It" and "The Making of Peter Dunn." "The Master of Bonne Terre" is likely to have a large circulation in all parts of St. Francois county.

## HAS DICTATORIAL POWER

Minneapolis, May 1.—The new Minnesota Safety Board, which last week closed thirty Minneapolis saloons, has been clothed with extraordinary powers.

It can remove from office any mayor, sheriff or other official not named in the State constitution.

It can enroll every citizen between 18 and 45 years old for not only military duty, but for farm labor and industrial purposes.

It can seize and condemn for public use any private property, including foodstuffs, and through this power can regulate food prices during the period of war.

The Safety Board was created by act of the State Legislature.

## THE LOCAL OPTION ELECTION SUSTAINED

### Contest Against Farmington "Dry" Regime Knocked Out by Judge Dearing

The local option election, held in Farmington on January 12, 1915, was held valid by Judge E. M. Dearing at Ironton on last Saturday.

It will be remembered that this election was, by resolution, called on December 14, 1914; and that at the election, held on January 12, 1915, the "dry" element won by the narrow margin of 29 votes.

Shortly after the election and within twenty days, as provided by law, Attorney B. H. Boyer, the then Mayor or our city, acting as attorney for William C. Fischer, gave notice of his contest, alleging some twenty or more reasons why the election should be held illegal and void. Among these reasons were: That the resolution calling the election was amended after its passage; that in wards one and three there were some seventeen ballots not numbered when cast so as to correspond to the number of the name of the voter; that there were several illegal votes cast.

This contest was filed in the Circuit Court of this county, but Mr. Boyer, for and in behalf of the "wets," caused an application for a change of venue to be filed against Judge Peter H. Huck, and the venue of the case was changed and the contest sent to the Iron County Circuit Court. In that court Mr. Boyer filed an amended petition last January, charging that there were no ballot boxes nor booths used at the election, as required by the local option law, and after an unsuccessful attempt to strike out the amendment, the cause went to trial last Saturday at Ironton before Judge E. M. Dearing.

Mr. Boyer, on behalf of Mr. Fischer and the "wets," in the introduction of his evidence, abandoned all but three of his grounds for contest, viz.: That the resolution calling the election was amended after the passage by the Board of Aldermen; that seventeen ballots, nine in the First ward and eight in the Third ward, were not properly numbered when cast; and that there were no booths nor ballot boxes used in either of the four wards. To sustain these points he introduced the following witnesses: W. C. Fischer, plaintiff; Sam Isenman, City Clerk, Carl Gaebe, Jasper N. Burks, A. C. Daven, Thos. H. Stam, John E. Hough, Adam Neidert, J. D. (Harve) Higley, Gus Schliesser, Barney Peltz, Wm. Ryan, Geo. Herzog, Judge Harter, H. C. Meyer, Jacob Day, A. W. Lotz, N. A. Buchanan, Thomas Lang, Charles Reinhardt, Joseph Beck, M. C. Zimmer, Fred Schliesser, J. R. Hughes, John H. Stam and Peter Giesling, Sr., together with the records and poll books.

The most of these witnesses stated that they did not recall seeing any booths, and only a few stated positively that there were no booths nor ballot boxes provided in the four wards. It was shown that the above mentioned seventeen ballots were not numbered, but that each were properly counted as cast. It was shown by the City Clerk and one or two

members of the Board of Aldermen that Milton Spough, Alderman, introduced the resolution, that B. H. Marbury read the same, and as he read it he inserted the date of the election and the names of the judges of election of each ward, and after concluding the reading, Barry Phillips, Alderman, moved its adoption as read. Robert Boswell, Alderman, seconded that motion; that the Mayor, B. H. Boyer, put the motion to adopt the resolution as read but once, and called on the clerk to call the roll by wards, and that it was adopted as read.

The defendant, City of Farmington, introduced the following witnesses: B. H. Marbury, J. E. Klein, Dr. C. A. Tetley, Rev. J. M. Bailey, Ed Heiber, J. W. McCarthy, J. T. Evans, O. J. Mayberry, Ben O'Dell, W. N. Fleming, Geo. P. Ware, C. W. Francisco, Jeff Counts, Geo. Sutherland, Barry Phillips, Judge J. S. Clay, Milton Spough, Sam O. Conway, Sr., and J. P. Cayce, together with an account presented by C. B. Rodgers, the then City Marshal, one item of which was for \$2.00 for placing booths in the various wards on the evening of January 11th, 1915, which account was O. K'd by Barney Peltz and M. C. Zimmer, as auditing committee, on Jan. 13, 1915, and which account was paid at the meeting of the Board of Aldermen, at which B. H. Boyer presided as Mayor, on Jan. 13, 1915, the minutes of which meeting the Mayor, B. H. Boyer, approved in writing. It was convincingly shown that the resolution was not amended after it was read by Mr. Marbury; and it was overwhelmingly shown by judges, clerks and challengers at the election, and by members of the committee who took the booths and ballot boxes from under the "band stand" and assisted the Marshal, C. B. Rodgers, in placing them in the four wards' voting places, and by men who used the booths on election day, that each ward had two booths and two ballot boxes at the polling places.

After hearing these 45 witnesses and reading or hearing read the record evidence, Judge Dearing very promptly and pointedly sustained the election upon every point in contest.

We assume that the "wets" will file a motion for a new trial, and if the costs of this cause is paid, and some one or more financially solvent persons may be found to provide good and sufficient appeal bond and "juicy" fee for attorney, the case may be appealed.

Mr. B. H. Boyer, Mayor at the time the election was called and held, was attorney for the "wets". B. H. Marbury, J. P. Cayce and City Attorney, Clyde Morsey, represented the "drys", and Mr. Morsey acted as leading attorney during the trial, and did his part well.

We believe that the court's prompt decision, sustaining the election in every particular, meets the approval of every unbiased person who heard the case tried and those who know the true facts.

## A City Beautiful

The good people of this city have for some time past been making considerable advance in making of Farmington a "City Beautiful". To the women's clubs of this city, particularly, is much credit due toward bringing about such a desirable condition of affairs. As a general proposition, when the ladies take hold of anything in this community, it is brought to a successful conclusion. Consequently, when anything for the good or improvement of this city is desired, the first step that should be taken is to get the ladies aroused and enthused in its behalf.

In this connection, we believe that if the ladies had been in charge of sprinkling the streets of Farmington, that before the summer had progressed thus far, the city streets would have been treated to a coat of oil, which would have laid the dust at this particular period, when it can become such an inconvenience—yea, eyesore—when there is any lying around loose when the strong spring winds are blowing. This city, for the time being, at least, has lost its most enviable reputation of being a "dustless town", and we trust that the present experience will cause a satisfactory remedy to be worked out in the future.

We understand what the reasons of the City Council were for postponing the oiling of the streets until May, and in a way their reasons for such a course are good. It was in order that the streets would be sufficiently warm and dry to enable them to absorb a heavy coating of oil, without waste from washing by spring rains. And this position is perfectly right and tenable, if there is to be but a single sprinkling with oil for the entire year. But our position is that more good could be accomplished with two sprinklings of the same amount of oil. Make them lighter, and use the first along in March, when the dust first begins to become obnoxious, and the next along in June or July, or whenever there is any apparent need for it.

But to return to our original subject. There are still many and big things yet to be accomplished in Farmington in the way of making this truly a "City Beautiful". Perhaps the leading and most important thing in this connection is the crying need of a thorough sewerage system throughout Farmington. The present large number of cases of sickness is a most forceful reminder of that fact. A thorough system of sewerage would undoubtedly reduce sickness to a minimum in Farmington. Would not such a result be worth a supreme effort to accomplish? Then there are several other things greatly needed here to make this a truly "City Beautiful". Perhaps the most important of these things is to secure a properly located City Park. There is also a great need for a city fire truck; the county jail premises could also be wonderfully improved by tearing down the old fence that encloses the property and making an attractive grass plot of what is now used as a cow lot.

A number of other things will present themselves for improvement as progress is made along the lines of beautifying this community. The Times would like to see the ladies take the lead in these improvements, as we feel confident that their activity will add materially toward bringing such improvements to a successful conclusion.

## A Few More

Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, new subscriptions continue to come in a very satisfactory number, considering the damp, cold weather.

New Subscriptions—L. K. Peers and Joseph Beck, Sr., of Farmington, J. W. Boswell of Doe Run, R. G. Poston of Bonne Terre, C. F. Kiepe of Knob Lick, Morgan, J. Y., Farmington.

Renewals—G. W. Sebastian, Mrs. C. C. Cunningham and Ellis Byington of Farmington.

E. K. Hawn left for St. Louis last Monday to serve on the Federal jury.

## To Train for Army Officers

Messrs. Edward A. Rozier, Benj. H. Marbury and J. C. Watson have been appointed by the Military Training Camps Association, to examine applicants who wish to enter the training camp for the officers reserve corps of the United States army. Men of this vicinity who may wish to enter upon such training must apply to them by May 8th and not later than May 14th.

Now that conscript is a certainty and will soon be enforced, it is up to the people of this city to decide whether their troops will be led by their own citizens or by officers from other cities or other States.

It is planned now that troops from different localities will be commanded by officers from their own city. It is up to the men of this city now to see that there is a sufficient number of officers trained to meet the demand. Are we going to have someone from another city or from another State leading our troops?

A camp will be held near by to fit these men to be officers. All expense incident to attendance will be borne by the government.

A college education is valuable but is not essential. Any man with experience in executive positions is wanted, whether at the head of a business or at the head of an important department in a business.

Such men are needed and are needed especially right now for the first volunteer officers.

Applications are being received by mail or in person at Room 502, Military Training Camp Association, at the War Department, Chicago.

Many applicants for officers' reserve corps who have been preliminarily accepted have been anxiously awaiting notice of actual selection. Some civilians appear to have misunderstood the instructions, believing that the approval of their fitness guaranteed final selection. Accordingly Col. Heistand issued an order containing various instructions, and among them the following:

"The fact that you have been reported as suitable by the board which examined you and have been given the duplicate copy of application card does not authorize you to enter the camp. As noted under directions on the back of the card which you were instructed to read and follow, the Camp Commander will select and notify 2,500 men for each camp to attend. More than the fortunate 2,500 may be certified as suitable by the boards which examine them; but of these only 2,500 may attend. The camp commander will send to each one of these 2,500, except members of the Engineer Company, a postal card instructing him to report. Upon receipt of this postal card the candidate will start for the camp."

## Farmington Boys Are Enlisting

The following named Farmington boys enlisted with Postmaster Smith for the United States Navy, and left yesterday:

Gus Peters,  
Richard Holland,  
Lewis Schrader,  
Joe Hudson,

And the following for the Marines, the first three of whom left yesterday, and the others will leave tomorrow:

Gilbert Chandler,  
Oscar Le Pere,  
Jack Le Pere,  
Russell Mullins,  
Brady Mullins,

Sergeant Moulton, in the recruiting service, has been here several days, and Postmaster Smith turned the recruits over to him. The Sergeant was in the Marine service eight years, but for the past two years has been in civil life. He felt that his country's call was mandatory, and so re-enlisted and was assigned at once to the recruiting service, and a commission awaits him.

## FREE SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY THE U. D. C.

The United Daughters of the Confederacy offer the following State scholarship to a lineal descendant of a Confederate veteran:

A scholarship in the State Normal School at Springfield, Mo., valued at \$118.

A scholarship at the State Normal at Kirksville, Mo., valued at \$350; student to pay \$175.

A scholarship, in part, at Lindenwood, St. Charles, Mo., valued at \$375; student to pay \$175.

A scholarship, in part, at Central College, Fayette, Mo., valued at \$235; student to pay \$117.50.

A scholarship in Central College, Lexington, Mo., valued at \$310.

A scholarship in Cotter College, Nevada, Mo., valued at \$325.

A scholarship in Christian College, Columbia, Mo., valued at \$350.

All applications for scholarships must be sent in by June 1. All applicants must be graduates of an accredited high school, or private schools of equal rank. All applications, with high school grades, and papers of eligibility, should be sent to State Chairman, not later than June 15, 1917. Mrs. Elma W. Ealy, No. 419 Bellevue St., Cape Girardeau, Mo.

R. C. Pigg of Bonne Terre went to St. Louis several weeks ago and bought four automobiles. The first of the week several parties came down from St. Louis and claimed the machines, declaring that they had been stolen from them.

## Get a Fire Motor Truck

Farmington probably has as efficient a fire department as any city of its size in the State, and it has saved thousands of dollars worth of property by its prompt and efficient work, but it can be made more effective at little cost to our people. By the present arrangement it sometimes takes from fifteen to twenty minutes after an alarm is sent in to harness and hitch up a team and get to the scene of the fire with the hose. If the department were provided with a motor truck, many minutes could be saved in getting to a fire, and on such occasions minutes count, for the flames could be extinguished before making much headway.

A motor truck to take the place of team and wagon would cost in the neighborhood of \$600 or \$700. The city finances may not be in a condition to make the purchase, or the securing of a motor would probably have suggested itself to the Board of Aldermen; however, that ought not to be allowed to stand in the way when a need of this kind presents itself. Whenever any necessary public improvement is suggested that makes for a better Farmington, our people are not slow to meet the need. All that is necessary is for a few enterprising persons to make a start.

Now, The Times has a suggestion to make. The women of our town are much interested in everything that makes for its beauty, cleanliness and improvement. We have several wide-awake women's clubs—the Monday, the Fortnightly and the Civic Clubs, and each has done much for Farmington. As they are always so willing and ready to take and forward anything that is in the interest of the town, we are going to take the liberty of suggesting that these clubs get together, take counsel of this project and see what they can do in the matter of raising money for a fire truck motor. Several ways will suggest themselves. Raising the money by subscription is not necessary. Entertainments, musical, histrionic, etc., may be given, for anything of this nature by local talent is always liberally patronized by our people, and the ladies of these clubs can always be depended upon to get up something worth while. A few of these entertainments would not only be greatly enjoyed, but would bring in considerable money. With such help the Board of Aldermen might see its way clear to give considerable help towards buying the motor truck.

## BAPTIST S. S. TEACHERS' TRAINING CLASS HOLD GRADUATING EXERCISES

Last Sunday evening the Teachers' Training Class of the Baptist Sunday School held their graduating exercises in the auditorium of the church and normal diplomas were granted to a class of fifteen teachers.

Those receiving diplomas were, Mesdames Abe C. Jones, J. A. McCullough, Wm. A. Smith, E. E. Sutherland; Misses Mattie Cunningham, Fannie Scott, Katherine Jennings, Grace Denby, Edna Geer and Hazel Counts; Messrs. J. A. McCullough, A. Campbell, J. E. Gossett and D. K. Chamberlain.

This class was organized several months ago with Miss Anna Menge as teacher, and under her efficient leadership has been able to do the work in a very creditable manner, and it is due her to say that it is to her unflinching zeal that the class owes its success.

The exercises of the evening consisted of a select passage of Scripture from the 119th Psalm, read by the pastor, Rev. O. H. L. Cunningham, followed by a musical treat in the way of a duet rendered by Miss Anna Craig and Mrs. J. H. Johnson. Supt. W. L. Johns then gave an excellent address to the graduating class, which was enjoyed to the fullest, not only by them, but by the large audience as well. Prof. Johns emphasized the fact that while the pedagogical side of teaching should not be overlooked, the spiritual preparation of the teacher is far more important. At the close of his address, Supt. Johns presented the diplomas to the class, and Prof. McCullough, on behalf of the class, responded with a short, but very appropriate speech.

The following evening Miss Menge entertained the class at her home with Scriptural contests, which were enjoyed by all present, and they voted Miss Anna to be the queen of entertainers, especially so after enjoying the delicious refreshments served at the close of the evening's amusements.

## LOYALTY CLUB DOING ITS BIT

The committee appointed by the Loyalty Club has arranged for a beautiful Electric Flag, which will be erected over the Post Office. This position was decided on as giving the most effective view of the flag, as it can be seen from three directions, and prove an inspiration to all who see it.

The Loyalty Club is also making arrangements to give a picture at the Monarch soon. Due notice of this will be given next week. The proceeds will be used in relief work, aiding the Red Cross Society or any other good work in our own immediate vicinity. Everyone is urged to join in this movement and give it support.

The names added to the list published in this paper last week are: Father John Morgan, Mrs. S. C. Watts, Mrs. A. O. Nichols, J. A. Coffman, Fischer Mercantile Co., Sundry Lilies, Taylor Smith.